



Raltitrexed (Tomudex®)

At the Clinical Center referred to as Raltitrexed (rol-tih-TREX-ed).

How Given: Intravenously (by vein).

Drug Action: Raltitrexed blocks a protein that cancer cells need to copy and repair DNA. DNA is the genetic material in cells used to make new cells.

Side Effects:

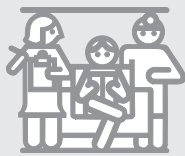
1. Bone marrow effects can include a temporary decrease in white blood cells, platelets, and red blood cells.
2. Mild nausea and vomiting can occur.
3. Diarrhea can occur.
4. Lip, throat, and mouth sores can occur.
5. Skin rash can occur.
6. Mild flu-like symptoms can occur. Symptoms include fever, chills, muscle-aches, headache, and fatigue.
7. Raltitrexed can damage your liver. Tests will be done to monitor this effect. Liver damage will go away when the drug is stopped.

Special Instructions:

1. Do not take any vitamins unless prescribed by your NIH doctor.
2. Do not take any aspirin or aspirin-containing products unless prescribed by your NIH doctor.
3. Take anti-nausea medication as ordered.

4. Call your NIH doctor or nurse if you

- have any loose stools or diarrhea
- have a temperature of 101.0 °F (38.3 °C) at any time, or have a temperature of at least 100.4 °F (38.0 °C) that lasts 1 hour or occurs two times within a 24-hour period
- have any unusual bleeding or bruising
- are unable to drink for more than 1 day or unable to eat for more than 2 days after treatment



This information is prepared specifically for patients participating in clinical research at the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health and is not necessarily applicable to individuals who are patients elsewhere. If you have questions about the information presented here, talk to a member of your healthcare team.

Living with Cancer Chemotherapy Series
Draft, February 2000; Approved February 2001
National Institutes of Health, CC Nursing Department

Questions about the Clinical Center? OCCC@cc.nih.gov